Finance Commission

593. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 'Finance Commission' while fixing the share of the States does not take into account a vital parameter like the 'area' of the State into consideration at all;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the 'Finance Commission also does not take into account the fact that the "development' is also on "area concept" implying thereby that development of a larger area will naturally require larger financial resources while fixing the respective shares of each State; and

(c) if so, whether Government and Finance Commission propose to consider the inclusion of these factors/indexes as a parameter for deciding a State's share?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI) (a) to (c): The Ninth Finance Commission has been constituted recently. The Commission is required to take into account special problems of each State while making its recommendations. It is for that Commission to decide, within the terms of reference, the parameters relevant for determination of devolution of funds to the States.

FERA violation by agent for Bofors

594. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Win Chadha, the agent for Bofors, is not an Indian citizen;

(b) if so, whether it is legally possible to charge him for violation of the FERA; and

(c) if not, how does Government propose to take action against him and other persons who were paid commissions by the Bofors in the Bofors gun deal?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) No, Sir. Shri W. N. Chadha, alias Win Chadha, is an Indian citizen.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Every effort is being made to ascertain the person(s) who have been alleged to have been paid various amounts by Bofors as per the Audit Report of the National Audit Bureau of Sweden. Investigations have also been initiated under FERA against Shri Win Chadha, whose company, Anatronic General Corporation, is associated with Bofors.

Plans for 10,000 MWe installed nuclear power capacity

595. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Atomic Energy Commission has drawn up a plan for an installed nuclear power capacity of 10,000 MWe by the end of the century whereas the present generation is only 1,330 MWe;

(b) if so, whether Government expect to achieve this target and whether all the requirements and linkages in this regard have been worked out in details; and

(c) whether adequate precautions would be taken to ensure that these power plants remain cent-per-cent safe, especially in view of the Chernobyl disaster of Russia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In view of the Chernobyl accident, the experts in DAE have reviewed the safety features of the Indian Nuclear Power Stations, and this review has confirmed that adequate safety measures already exist in the Indian Nuclear Power Stations. Nevertheless, lessons have been learnt from the Chernobyl accident and additional steps have been taken to further improve reliability of operation of the nuclear power stations and reinforce the existing safety practices.

Discovery of historic Dwarka in Gujarat

596. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the old historic Dwarka has been discovered from the depth of sea in Gujarat; if so, what are the details in this regard;

(b) what further progress is being made for throwing more light on the archacological study of the finds; and

(c) whether it can be linked with the original Dwarka of Lord Krishna?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir. A group led by Dr. S. R. Rao retired archaeologist of Archaeological Survey of India has reported discovery of an old historic city from the depth of the sea of Gujarat. Stone fortification walls with Bastion, a stone jetty, anchors and other buildings submerged in sea are excavated, photographed and filmed. The buildings, Anchors, seal and inscriptions found are assignable to 15 century B.C.

(b) Further analysis of scientific data is in progress. Findings of the group will be discussed in the first Indian Conference on Marine Archaeology planned to be held in October this year. Further under-water excavation work will be undertaken subject to approval by the project monitoring committee of Department of Science and Technology.

(c) the submerged fortified port city is believed to correspond to the description of Lord Krishna's Dwarka.

Interim reply to Reliance Industries Ltd. to show cause notice

597. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reliance Industries Limited in their interim reply to the show cause notice of the Deputy Collector of Customs, Bombay dated, 10th February, 1987 have asked for Bill of Entry of the consignments and the examination reports of each and every consignment relied upon by the customs authorities while framing the show cause notice;

(b) if so, whether Government have provided these documents; and

(c) whether it is a dilatory tactics adopted by Reliance Industries Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) Reliance Industries Limited had, in their interim reply, asked for inspection of documents, including bills of entry with examination reports, which have been relied upon for the allegations made in the show cause notice. The party has since inspected all documents including available bills of entry with examination reports. Final reply to the show cause notice is awaited.

FERA violation by Shri L. M. Thapar

598. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shri L. M. Thapar, industrialist, who violated FERA re-